

FEB 12 2007

Application No.: 10/732993

Case No.: 58980US002

REMARKS

This is in response to the Examiner's action mailed November 2, 2006. Claims 1-33 are pending in the application. Claims 1-33 stand rejected. Claims 1, 10 and 32 are amended. No new matter has been added. Support for the amendments can be found on, for example, page 5, lines 15-18 of the specification.

Claims 1, 4, 8, 10, and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Karszes (US 6,060,003). Without acquiescing in the Examiner's rejections, Applicants assert that the amended claims are certainly novel over Karszes.

Regarding claim 1, Karszes discloses multiple resins that are first brought into contact with one another in a "black box" 122 and then co-extruded as a molten plastic material 49. In sharp contrast, claim 1 recites first extruding first and second molten films and then bringing the two molten films proximate each other. Accordingly, amended claim 1 is not anticipated by Karszes.

Regarding claims 4, 8, 10, and 12, these claims ultimately depend from claim 1 that is patentable over Karszes for the reasons set forth herein, and therefore, are patentable at least for the same reasons.

For these reasons, Applicants assert that claims 1, 4, 8, 10, and 12 are patentable over Karszes, and respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

Claim 9, 11, and 13-33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Karszes. These claims, however, ultimately depend from claim 1 that is patentable over Karszes for the reasons set forth herein, and therefore, are patentable over the same reference at least for the same reasons. Accordingly, Applicants assert that claims 9, 11, and 13-33 are patentable over Karszes under §103(a), and respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 2, 3, and 5-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Karszes in view of Fitzpatrick (US 4,701,019). As discussed herein, however, Karszes does not disclose amended claim 1. Furthermore, Fitzpatrick does not cure the deficiencies of Karszes

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because Fitzpatrick, like Karszes, does not teach or suggest first extruding first and second molten films and then bringing the two molten films proximate each other.

Therefore, Applicants assert that claims 2, 3, and 5-7 are patentable under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Karszes in view of Fitzpatrick, and respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

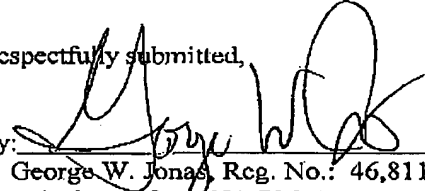
Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance, and solicit early indication of the same.

Date

2/2/2007

Respectfully submitted,

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